

Brand New 931

Chapter 931 Divine Dungeon: Ancient Valley

FLAAASH!

[You and your Party have entered the [Divine Dungeon: Ancient Valley (Cloudia Fragment 1/5)] [Danger Level: 300+]!]

[Warning: Your Level is too low. You may receive further penalties for entering.]

[The Ancient Valley was one of the largest cities of the Floating Continent of Cloudia, built by the Ancient Elves and the Divine Dragons in conjunction, it was both a safe heaven and also a path with a beautiful valley that connected to the other four Cities of Cloudia.]

As we entered the Dungeon, we all were trapped within some sort of strange, illusory domain. We could only watch as our surroundings changed. It felt like we were moving from the skies down to the ground.

"W-What's happening?!" Anikitty cried. "Nyaaaagh!"

"C-Calm down! I think we entered in some sort of special dungeon; it is one that tells a story, a Scenario." I explained.

"Like Ignis said...!" Angelina muttered.

"T-This is nuts! Are we falling from the skies?!" Ambil panicked.

"Calm down, we're safe, we're simply being shown what we need to see." I said. "Just listen carefully to the messages... I think this is important information we'll never learn anywhere else."

"So this is Cloudia's Ancient Valley..." Brisingra said. "So beautiful, a garden of flowers..."

From above, we could see a beautiful grassland that extended almost endlessly. In the middle of it, a beautiful and colorful garden of flowers surrounded a city made of white stone. And inside of this gigantic city, there were countless elves and... dragons, living together.

The city had many roads, surrounded by beautiful forests and valleys, which connected to faraway cities within Cloudia.

So just as the message said, this was the Ancient Valley of Cloudia.

[The Ancient Valley was a place where Elves and Dragons lived together and prospered, with the help and enlightenment of the Gods themselves, who would sometimes descend from Heaven to visit them temporarily]

[Inside of this city, the Ancient Elves and the Divine Dragons researched the Nature of the World of Arcadia, alongside the existence and powers of the Demon Kings that have been sealed before.]

The scenery changed once more, showing the Ancient Elves and the Divine Dragons working together, living together, and researching together. They were powerful, smart, and long lived. They dedicated most of their lives to understand the world.

"Are they Ancient Elves?" Rita wondered. "And big dragons!"

"I can't believe it... We're really seeing the past!" Acorn cried.

"Ancient Elves...?" Brisingra looked around. "Mother! Mom! Are you there?"

However, no matter how much she tried to call for her, no elves answered. They couldn't see us. After all, this seemed to be a fabrication, a fragment of the world's memory.

"Brisingra..." I held her hand. "Calm down."

"A-Ah... Sorry." She sighed.

[After the Sealing of the Sixth Demon King, people around the world were finally able to enjoy a peaceful Era that lasted thousands of years.]

[Using this time, the Ancient Elves and the Divine Dragons did their best to research how to properly kill the Demon Kings, whose bodies and souls were so powerful they could only be sealed, incapable of being destroyed.]

The scenery kept changing more and more, as it showed a group of Ancient Elves and a Dragon, on her Humanoid form. It was a group of four, researching inside of a laboratory full of divine artifacts sealed fragments of the Demon Kings. However, they seemed worried that they had not found a reason on why Erebus was so indestructible yet.

[Despite their best efforts, they were still without advancing in their research. And while they were bidding their time doing this, they were unaware that as the Era of Peace began, the seventh Demon King was slowly being born from the last Fragment of the Erebus left behind.]

"This is hopeless... No matter how much we attempt to use the power the gods granted us to experiment, it doesn't seem to work." Sighed one of the Ancient Elves, a woman with short silvery-white hair and sharp yellow eyes, wearing a gray robe that covered most of her body. "Hermes, any changes? Did the Divine Ray of Sunlight worked?"

"No, it hasn't worked even after I've tried its constant exposure for fifty years now." Sighed a blonde-haired Ancient Elf man, wearing similar gray clothes. "This is indeed hopeless. Even our Time Manipulation Magic cannot extend the duration of these Divine Relics too much."

"By the Yggdragon, what can we do now?" The Dragon man sighed, covered on golden scales, with glossy brown skin, muscular and bulky arms and body, and sharp brown eyes, with long black hair. "Not even the Divine Dragon Magic I've worked for so long can do it."

"I know we've been working relentlessly so far, Cecilia, Hermes, Elbedo." An Ancient Elf woman with long, silvery-white hair and sharp emerald eyes spoke. I noticed Brisingra gasping as the woman moved down her hoodie, revealing her beautiful and flawless face.

Her eyes, her expression, even her lips and her face, without a doubt. That woman looked almost the same as Brisingra.

"But this is a task the Gods have given to us. We cannot lose hope. We simply have to try another method, there are infinite combinations. Something must work, eventually. We have a lifetime of thousands of years to try. And even when finally die, others will take our stead."

"Mercedes..." Sighed Cecilia. "I suppose you're right..."

"Mercedes?!" Brisingra cried. "M-Mom?! It's mom! It's really her! She looks just like me in the mirror and... Her name is the same!"

As Brisingra started jumping out of excitement to talk to her, she phased through her body, noticing she wasn't real, just an illusion. She fell to her knees, hitting a mirror-like floor made of glass.

"A-Ah... Right... She's not real." She sighed.

"Brisingra..." I quickly helped her stand up. "I know it must be hard for you but... We finally found her, even if it's an illusion. Let's follow this dungeon's guidance, and find out about your mother, and what happened to them, alright?"

"Okay..." She nodded. "Sorry..."

"It's fine, girl. I would probably react the same in your shoes." Rita smiled at her.

"Now, let's concentrate." Mark said. As we continued seeing the scene.

Chapter 932 First Scenario

[Within one of the many research facilities of Cloudia's Ancient Valley, a group of four researchers try their best to find a weakness that could defeat the Demon Kings once and for all, and free the world of Arcadia from their endless destruction and insatiable thirst for power.]

[Unknown to them, their works and efforts will eventually change the world as they know it and give it a last hope. However, now that this fragment of the world's memories has become a Scenario, it is your duty to help them accomplish it...]

[And perhaps, even reach a new ending.]

"I suppose you're not wrong, Mercedes... but I really, really need a break right now! After overusing my Time Magic I always feel SO tired." Yawned Cecilia. "How about we go eat something at the bar?"

"Sure, I'm starving myself." Elbedo nodded.

"Wait a minute, something is happening here..." As the group was reading themselves to depart, suddenly, Hermes noticed something.

Looking at what he was experimenting on, a hand-sized fragment of a Demon King with the color of black and red, the Divine Sunlight Aura he was using to burn it seemed to be finally working.

Its black energy was beginning to dissipate, as the light slowly turned it into ashes. The Ancient Elf's eyes lightened up, full of hope.

"Wait, it's working?!" Mercedes asked, running to his side. "W-Would you look at that, it's turning into ashes."

"So Divine Sunlight Energy when used on Demon king Fragments for over fifty years works!" Said Elbedo. "No, we can't get so happy, this isn't enough. But why Sunlight Energy in specific?"

"Maybe it has to do with the relic itself? What is it made of?" Asked Cecilia. "I remember quite well that Sunlight Energy of Divine Grade has been used before..."

"This is a Sunbeam Relic made using... Huh?"

Crack, crack...

"SHYAAGHH!"

However, before they could continue their conversation, the dying Demon King Fragment started convulsing, gaining power out of nowhere, and suddenly shattering the seal put over its body with sheer power.

CRASH!

A flood of black miasma and tentacles emerged, filling the entire research facility. The four researchers quickly reacted, escaping from the building before it were to fully collapse. Their eyes widening as they saw the tiny Demon King Fragment freed itself.

Countless black tentacles spread out, covered by crimson-colored eyes. Its jaws opened from all places as the entire building collapsed. The other three Demon King Fragments they had inside also freed themselves, fusing with the main one.

An Aura of Death, Miasma, Swarms, and Floods surged from within the creature, as its roar echoed across the entire grasslands surrounding them!

"ROOOAAARR!"

"Shit, we gone and done it now!" Cecilia cried.

"Dammit Hermes, why was your seal so weak?!" Elbedo asked.

"It wasn't though?! I thought it was very strong! They never break like that!" Hermes cried. "Unless someone tampered with it?"

"Who would ever do such a thing?!" Cecilia said.

"Enough! We have to fight that thing and kill it! Don't waste time!" Mercedes said.

As this happened, the scenario around us changed. Everything somehow materialized, as we found ourselves inside of this scene. The gigantic monster started self-dividing itself, dozens of tiny Aberrations crawling out, rushing towards the four. And then, a message appeared.

[After finally being able to find some sort of way to destroy the indestructible composition of the Demon King's Fragments, an accident happens. Could someone in Cloudia have tampered with the seals?]

[However, despite their many questions, it isn't as if they could talk about it. If they let this thing escape into the main city, a terrible calamity was almost guaranteed.]

[Now that you're here, help Cecilia, Elbedo, Hermes, and Mercedes defeat the monstrous Amalgamation of Demon King Fragments before it is too late!]

[Scenario 1/4 has begun: [Defeat the [Aberrant Demon King Fragments Amalgamation: Lv300+] while protecting the four researchers from death!]

[Careful! The Amalgamation can divide itself and will send a swarm of dozens of offshoots to kill you and the four researchers. Make sure to protect them, if any of them dies, you will fail the Scenario and won't be able to enter again for 7 Days.]

[Each offshoot you defeat will give you additional score as a whole group. The more you defeat, the higher your score. However, the scenario ends once the Boss is defeated, or when the timing ends.]

[Make sure to defeat the Boss, and don't be too blinded by greed!]

[Scenario Requirements]: [Protect the four Researchers, kill the Boss]

[Scenario Hidden Requirement]: [???

[Time Limit]: [1 Hour]

[Penalty: Because the Level of some of the Players is insufficient, their Stats have been decreased by -30% and their Skill Damage has been decreased by -20%!]

[The Scenario begins now!]

After receiving that unfair Penalty, a wave of dark red energy encompassed all those who were below Level 300, which was actually all of us! Even my daughter who was so close to Level 300 was still included. This is really annoying... Well, it won't matter either way thanks to my Divine Dishes having increased their INT and WIS, at least for the magicians.

As for everyone else, they can always benefit from the myriad of other stat buffs, as I swiftly smashed the ground with my Gaia's All-Purpose-Tool and unleashed a wave of Spiritual Energy, plants of all kinds and spirit sprouts swiftly appearing one after another, in just a split second.

FLAAASH!

"Quickly! We don't have time to plan this! Protect the four researchers! Keep that thing in place, we can't let it move!" I commanded my friends and familiars.

"Alright!" Everyone nodded, quickly leaping into action.

I mounted Belle's back as I rushed through the grasslands, quickly arriving in front of Cecilia, who was hastily conjuring some Time Magic that only slowed down the incoming monsters. Were these illusory fragments of memory representing the people also weakened to make it harder for us?

Maybe...

"SHAAAH!!!"

"Aah, shit, they're breaking through my Time Bubble already?!"

"Belle, with me! [Divine Lightning Horn]!"

My pair of golden goat-like horns were fully charged with Mana, as a devastating zap of lightning was unleashed from them, Belle doing the same, completely burning to ashes the small offshoot coming to kill Cecilia.

BOOOM!

Chapter 933 Fighting The Ancient Demon King Fragments!

I commanded all my Familiars to create a circle surrounding Cecilia. As I just managed to destroy the offshoot that had come to kill her. The Time Bubble she had created slowly regenerated back once it wasn't taking more damage anymore. Her bright eyes quickly directed towards me and then the rest of my familiars.

"Ah! You guys are sure quick! I can't believe reinforcement already arrived... Please help us out taking this thing down!" She cried. Apparently, she believed I was also an inhabitant of Cloudia. "Quite the fancy-looking Familiars you got! Can I check them later?"

"Eh? Sure, I don't mind." I smiled back at her. "But for now, Cecilia, come with me. Belle will protect us well!"

"S-Sure!" She quickly climbed up over Belle's back, wrapping her arms around my stomach. "Thank you so much for coming! I've never been good at fighting myself, all my spells and skills are for technical and creation purposes..."

"It's fine!" I said. "For now, we have to get rid of those things coming..." I pointed my Gaia's All-Purpose-Tool, now transformed into a giant lion-headed club, and my Gram sword at the incoming beasts.

The offshoots were smaller versions of this fusion of Demon King Fragments. They were monstrous, mutated aberrations with many arms, legs, claws, eyes, and jaws. Their appearances varied, from undead-looking creatures to more demonic monsters, some even resembling masses of combined poisonous plants.

"Advance! Don't let them come closer! Kill every single one of them without exception!" I roared, as Belle and my horns unleashed a thunderstorm against anything in front of us, I constantly spread my Domains and Terrains to quickly increase our stats and the regeneration speed of Health, Mana, and Spirit Energy.

"You're an amazing magician! I've never seen someone spreading a Domain and Terrain so fast like this before. You must be an incredible Druid, a Divine Druid, maybe?" Cecilia wouldn't stop talking.

"Err, something like that, yeah!" I nodded. "Cecilia, do you have any buffs yourself?"

"Ah, right, yeah! I got some, just stay still!" She clumsily said, quickly summoning a gray-colored aura from her body. It emanated the power of the element of Time. "[Divine Time Magic]: [Time Acceleration]! [Slow Down Curse]!"

Two basic yet powerful Spells were conjured. Encompassing me and my Familiars were auras of time that accelerated our entire beings within time itself. Everything around us felt slightly slower, and even more once a dark gray aura slowed down the hundreds of monsters coming our way.

"Perfect! Crush them!"

Belle charged forwards rapidly, overcharging herself with all her Divine Lightning as she charged against our foes using her variety of Skills to crush them. She used [Super Charge] to give rapid bursts of speed and power and blow away foes with a single strike.

Then Lightning Horn Attack to release piercing, thundering blows that pulverized the monstrous creatures. And as if things couldn't get any more deadly in this giant divine goat, her Divine Thunder Aura Attack quickly was unleashed, summoning the figure of a tall, muscular god of thunder holding a mighty hammer. Without a doubt, this was Thor. Back then when we fought the Demon King of Miasma, she had also summoned him out of desperation.

"My precious Tanngnjóstr, you call upon my strength once more?" He laughed, his giant thunderous hammer smashing down the ground, dozens of miasmic monsters dying on the spot, pulverized and vaporized into ashes.

BAAAMMM!!

"Remember that I am only but a fragment of the records that have given you the power to evolve. Do not abuse my existence, or I will fade away quickly!"

"Meeeeheee!"

Belle almost ordered him to continue fighting, as the giant Thor flew into the skies, aiming at the final boss and then shapeshifting his entire body into a massive golden hammer made of thunder.

"Alright, alright! I guess I can do this for now!"

FLASH!

Cecilia gasped as the powerful Divine Thunder Aura Manifestation pummeled down, the gigantic fusion of Demon King Fragments was electrocuted and burned with golden flames, a third of its body suddenly disappearing. As the rest of its body was left weakened! That should have done a good chunk of damage, amazing.

"Belle, what the heck was that?! You'll have to explain to me later what's your connection with that man! I thought you were just a normal Farm Summon, but you really got a past, huh?" I wondered.

Unlike Tamed Monsters, Summons already come grown up and as formed creatures. It also could mean that Belle used to be something before becoming my Familiar, maybe like a past life of sorts. And I couldn't help but suspect she was some sort of Thunder God Familiar before becoming my Familiar.

"MEEEHHEE!"

She groaned without care, as she stomped down the monsters rushing towards us. I smashed them into smithereens and cut through their bodies with my club and my sword techniques. Waves of holy and purifying light emerged from Gram as I used my Heroic Swordsmanship Arts, while a myriad of Holy Light Spirits I ordered unleashed explosions of bright light.

At the same time as this happened, my mighty Divine Beast Familiars kept pushing through, leaving absolutely no monster to escape. They had become so powerful it was ridiculous!

"CRAAAH!"

Huginn specially, who flew right above our heads, spread his gigantic, feathered wings and unleashed a rain of feather projectile against our foes. Each projectile exploding into black flames that consumed it all. At the same time, he would rapidly descend and unleash Abyssal Shadow Kicks that released explosions upon contact, blowing away any foe that dared to touch him.

His Shadow Beak Attack pierced their bodies with his massive beak, resembling spear attacks, and his Curse Magic, Super Shadow Beam, and Shadow Chains restrained, weakened, and destroyed foes from a distance.

Saphee, in the other case, was slightly different. After her evolution, she had acquired and further awakened her powers to new levels. She wasn't alone, but accompanying her there was an army of a Hundred Poison Snake Phantoms, born from her Divine Poisonous Snake Aura.

"SHAAAAH!"

Chapter 934 The Power Of The Divine Beast Familiars

Saphee's gigantic draconic and serpentine body crushed the miasmic aberrations with her size alone. While her army of Poison Snake Phantoms spread around her. Like an endless swarm of snakes similar to her previous incarnation, they restrained and attacked the offshoots, while her deadly poison magic finished them off one after another.

Gigantic spears of solidified and crystalized venom pierced through their bodies and then dissolved them instantly. And as if that wasn't enough, once they fired their Miasmic Fire or Miasmic Beams magic at her, Saphee's lean-looking scales would activate her [Magic Reflective Scales] Skill, reflecting most of the magic damage taken back to her foes.

"SHAAAH!"

Her gigantic tail shapeshifted into a long, deadly purple and black metallic spear, which she quickly used to spear through and pierce the body of some offshoots that were beginning to combine together into larger monsters.

All three of my Farm Summons, now having become Divine Beasts, held tremendous power, comparable already to many levels above them when we coupled them with all the bonus stats they received from me.

And that wasn't even starting, the Plants and the Tamed Monsters devastated everything else, without leaving a single area surrounding us without being destroyed. I had yet to fully get used to some of their new forms, but the girls were doing their best as well.

"Shyeheheh!"

Loki giggled mischievously as she spread her endless hard-as-metal vines through the underground, making them surge from below like gigantic pillars of spines and venomous flowers, and jaws, very sharp jaws. Each pillar that surged from the underground would quickly engulf a dozen Demon King Fragment Amalgamation into a deadly hug, biting, tearing, and eating them completely, mercilessly.

Her [Gluttony] Skill allowed her to easily devour most things and absorb their nutrients rapidly temporarily increasing her stats and restoring her Mana which she used to constantly conjure all her Spells and Skills. A combination of her [Sharp and Venomous Vine Attack] and her [Black Vines of Steel], coupled with [Energy Vampirism] allowed her to easily destroy mostly anything on her path.

And as if things couldn't get any worse for a part of the offshoot army, made of roughly two hundred little critters no taller than two meters, her [Plant Mutation] [Plant Fusion] and [Overgrowth] made it so even as they tore through her body, Loki would easily regenerate and continuously grow larger as she absorbed any nearby plant. Even the green grass growing everywhere, and the flowers worked.

And because my Domain and Terrain kept spreading all sorts of plant life that grew automatically to further boost my stats, Loki continuously absorbed them, becoming larger, and larger, and larger!

"Fufufu~"

She suddenly looked down on the monstrous boss once more, whose damage was slowly regenerating after taking that super strong magical attack from Belle. Endless seas of tentacles, Miasmic Flames, Miasmic Acid, and Miasmic Nether rushed towards Loki, only for her to tank all the hits while her body continuously overflowed with Holy Light Aura.

This was because I had conjured my Spirit Infusion into her, fusing hundreds of Lesser Holy Light Spirits into her body and granting her a powerful Holy Light Spirit Aura. This was something I could do for a while, and I used it to enchant everybody to better fight our foes.

"SHAAAH!"

The monster roared back at her, only for Loki to laugh as usual and strike back, their monstrous tentacles constantly clashing and reverberating into an endless amount of explosions. Loki was only able to hold back a part of the creature though, but that's where Terra entered the game.

The ground rumbled, giant blocks of stone appeared one after another, blocking the deadly spear-tentacles of the Level 300 boss and taking several hits to break. They endlessly surged, as Terra constantly conjured them using her [Earth Shield] Skill combined with her [Earth Magic]! At the same time, an ever-

growing army of Mushroom Monsters kept sprouting from her legs, combining into giant arms made of mushrooms.

Through the combination of her [Giant Robust Body], [Mushroom Colony], [Mushroom Soldier] and [Self-Division], Terra combined with all these gigantic mushroom summons and became just as gigantic as Loki, both titans clashing against the boss and keeping it busy.

At the same time, the trio of Tamed Monsters conjured their powerful techniques. Two of them were mighty dragons, while the other had turned into... something else entirely.

"ROOOAAAR!"

"I am not really good with this roaring thing..."

Silver and Goldie unleashed their mighty magic while swimming in the air above. My beautiful Silver having fully evolved now into a mighty dragon, she unleashed her [Divine Silver Moon Dragon Breath] right away, as a silver and pink colored blast of Moonlight Silver Water was unleashed, piercing through the Boss and leaving countless holes through its body.

At the same time, Goldie, who wasn't as confident on himself, released his [Divine Holy Dragon Breath Of Light], continuously damaging and burning through the boss' entire body. Both Dragons worked in tandem to deal as much continuous damage as possible, slowly mitigating the boss' self-

regeneration in conjunction with Belle, Huginn, Saphee, Loki, Terra, Silver, and Goldie's blows.

"Guuuh!"

However, there was someone that hadn't stepped in yet, someone that just caught up from slaying several foes at once, it was Mimy. Her dashing figure, clad in black armor, rushed through the battlefield like a blur of black light, using her [Space-Traversing Eldritch Body] to easily shift through space and arrive above the boss. She summoned not one, but a dozen giant swords of the same black armor material covering her body, and then activated her [Spatial Blade Swordsmanship], cutting through hundreds of giants, thick tentacles at once.

The boss naturally agonized, its tremendous HP Pool finally going down by ten percent after a lot of effort in these first minutes of battles. The rest of my friends hadn't been just watching yet. Our entire group swiftly divided itself into four major groups, each one protecting one of the researchers. I wasn't alone with my Familiars, Nieve and Johanna stayed with me, fighting in the left and right, spreading both ice with her rapier and powerful beastly attacks respectively. Mark was also there, his totems and magic spreading endless seas of flames.

"This won't do, that monster cannot be slain easily..." Cecilia suddenly said. "If only we could get back the relic we used before!"

"The Relic, you say?"

Chapter 935 Find The Sunbeam Relic!

"Yes, the Sunbeam Relic! It is made using the Scales and Claws of the Ancient Yggdragon, our race's mother. Additionally, they were forged by the God of Blacksmiths, Hephaestus, and further enchanted by the God of Flames, Agnis!" Cecilia revealed to me.

Suddenly, I felt some sort of insight, something surging within the entire Scenario was shifting. This was definitely not just some vague information, not at all.

Ding!

[You have found an insight into the Hidden Scenario Requirement!]

[Step 1: Find the Sunbeam Relic]

"The Sunbeam Relic! We have to find it! Somehow!" I said, as I used my Lightning Horns to unleash a storm of divine lightning. The Divine Beast Skills were leveling rapidly.

"A Sunbeam Relic?! Wait, the one they used to almost kill one of the fragments?" Rita asked.

CRASH!

Gigantic dragon claws made of concentrated Malice Darkness and Void crushed through the monsters, conjured by Rita's ever-developing magic. Her eyes shone with bright red light as black and purple scales spread around her body.

A long tail, sharper claws, draconic wings, dragon horns, and more draconic features spread around her sexy body, all while she overflowed with a Divine Draconic Aura of Void and Darkness! This must be Rita's amazing new Divine Skill, some sort of Draconification ability that even boosted her magic power through the roof.

"That's not going to be easy, how can we even find that thing?!" Jenny continuously spread her body and devoured the offshoots one after another, while firing acidic bullets and firing back any projectile she swallowed with her slime body.

"It is certainly a rather challenging scenario!" Lily complained, her giant hammer crushed through the battlefield. Each strike of hers released a huge pillar of stone, metal, and crystals, which pierced our foes like spears from the earth.

"Maybe I could find it if I use my Appraising Skills, but it still going to take a while, and these monster things won't let us even search in peace, they keep coming endlessly!" Acorn roared, already having transformed into his Divine Beast form, he was unleashing a devastating barrage of claw and tail attacks.

Rita was with Lily, Jenny, Ambil, Brisingra, and Acorn, protecting Mercedes, whom Brisingra was shielding and protecting with all her might. It was the first time that girl could ever speak with her mother, even if an illusion. The other parties were Angelina's party with Anikitty, Erdrich, and Gandalf protecting the Divine Dragon Elbedo, and then there was my daughter's party, Elena, Anna, Elisa, Monica, and Greenie protecting the elf Hermes.

"The Sunbeam Relic, that's right!" Mercedes nodded. "If we can find it and repurpose it into some sort of new item, or combine it with strong magic, it could be possible to eliminate that thing much more effectively than the slow method you're all using!"

"Is that so, mother?" Brisingra asked.

"Girl, why are you calling me mother all the time?" Sighed Mercedes. "I have no children..."

"A-Ah, sorry!" Brisingra blushed a bit. "But do you know of a way to look for the relic, Mothe- I mean, Lady Mercedes?"

"The Relics we work with emanate different and distinct Divine Auras. Cecilia and Hermes aren't good at sensing Divinity, but Elbedo and I are." Mercedes said. "However, I will need a minute to conjure the special Divine Technique to search for them, so please, protect me until then!"

"You betcha!" Rita roared, her body, now having grown up to four meters tall, landed on a dozen monsters, her Magical Darkness and Void Aura constantly summoning countless draconic claws to tear her foes down. "With this new Divine Skill I got; I am literally invincible as long as I got Mana!"

"You got a pretty good one, Rita!" Lily giggled. "I guess it is also time for me to go a bit all out! [Earth Titaness Transformation]"

Lily suddenly transformed, her smaller body going back to her true, gigantic form, this wasn't even her Divine Skill, but the form she had evolved into back then. Her Divine Skill, however, was activated right after that. As she touched the ground, her eyes glowing with golden light.

"[Absolute Divine Earth Titan Goddess Domain]"

FLASH!

Her entire being fused with the earth within ten kilometers in just a single second. Suddenly, parts of her body kept surging endlessly from the ground, as if she was able to create clones out of the earth itself. I sensed her Mana emptying rapidly, but my Domain and Terrain quickly recovering back to full again.

A barrage of powerful and mighty titanic rock fists descended upon the monsters one after another, dozens of them dying with each second. At the same time as her attacks reached the Boss, pushing it away from the area of the house, so we could more easily search for the Relic.

"[Divine Rainbow Barrier Arts]: [Divine Seven-Colored Barrier Sword]!"

Brisingra, in the other case, protected her mother with her powerful Barrier magic, as she manipulated her rainbow-

colored barriers into giant swords, slashing and tearing through the monsters that got on their way.

"You're surprisingly strong! Is your name Brisingra, girl?" Mercedes wondered.

"Y-Yes, that's my name, ma'am!" Brisingra nodded. "I... Err, I'm just happy to see you. Finally... Even though we are in such a situation, I'm happy that I can see you talk and... here."

"Huh? What are you talking about?" Mercedes was growing more confused. "Ah! There!"

Her eyes suddenly turned completely white, as her Divine Technique activated. I saw how she suddenly located the relic's position easily after activating such an ability, pointing at the left.

"Over there! Elbedo, did you feel it too?" She cried.

"Yes, I did! You four, can you help us get there?" Elbedo, the Divine Dragon and seemingly the strongest of the four researches, asked.

"Sure, alright, let's get this done with." Angelina nodded.

"We'll protect your back; can you secure it?" Gandalf asked.

"Of course!" Elbedo roared. "I haven't even showed you my true form! [Divine Dragon Form]"

The Dragonoid became a Divine Dragon, resembling a giant, majestic Gold Dragon, leaping into the skies and flying towards the pile of rubble where the Sunbeam Relic was located. His party of bodyguards protecting him.

"Open a way for Elbedo!" I roared, my Familiars swiftly shifting their positions, as I pointed my weapons into the distance, aiming at a gigantic fusion of many smaller offshoots. "[Celestial Slash]!"

SLASH!

BOOOM!

Chapter 936 Opening The Way

The Giant Demon King Fragment Fusion collapsed on the ground as a wave of blinding light and spiritual energy in the shape of a roaring Lion devastated its upper body, while a slash of holy light vaporized its lower body. With my two weapons, I was able to easily overwhelm and kill a Level 250 Monster! These offshoots were between Level 200 to 220, and when combined, they could get to 250 to 280.

However, the Boss remained at Level 300, with a ridiculous pool of HP and endless health regeneration, even with the giants of my Familiar group attacking it at once, they were barely able to keep enough damage to cancel most of its self-regeneration.

The rest of the three groups couldn't reach the Boss yet, because the armies of monsters it produced endlessly from its body continuously put themselves in front of us.

"SHAAAH!"

Another fusion appeared behind us, as Cecilia panicked, waving her hand and unleashing a gray-colored beam of light. The monster suddenly stopped moving, completely frozen in time.

"K-Kill it quickly! My Time Freezing only works for a few seconds!"

"Got it! Belle!"

"BEEEEHEE!"

Belle gave a turn while galloping across the endlessly growing domain and terrain I was producing. Her stats skyrocketing as I imbued into her several Lesser Dragon Spirits, her lightning gaining holy flames and frost around her.

BAAAM!

A mighty headbutt with her divine lightning horns was all she needed, the frozen-in-time monster was immediately electrocuted, burned, and then frozen, before collapsing into countless pieces over the floor.

"GRAAH!"

"GRUOH!"

However, more kept emerging. Giant black tentacles surged from the ground, fusions of many smaller offshoots, now taking the form of long, slimy tentacles. They attempted to catch me and my Familiars and drag us down.

"Nieve, Johanna, take care of those!" I swung my weapons, annihilating more monsters as we kept making our way through the battlefield.

"Very well!" Nieve said.

"Alright then!" Johanna nodded.

Both were receiving all the buffs I could offer, their stats increasing over ten times their original numbers, above all, they were also receiving the buffs from my Divine Dishes stacked with them. And also I had imbued specific Spirits and Lesser Dragon Spirits into their bodies, further strengthening their elemental and spiritual prowess.

Ding!

[You have successfully blessed [Nieve] with dozens of Ocean Spirits and Water Dragon Spirits!]

[Nieve] has undergone a temporary transformation, becoming a [Divine Nymph Spirit Knightess]!

[Her Elemental Affinity with Water has been increased by +500%!]

[Nieve can now control the Element of Water with much more ease, Proficiency of Usage and Mastery have increased by +300%!]

[All other Stats have increased by +100%!]

[Duration: 1 Hour.]

Nieve underwent the same transformation as before once I let her fuse with the Ocean Spirits, her appearance once more changing to a Nymph. Her rapier overflowing with spiraling water waves.

"Thank you, my liege. I shall use the power you've granted to me to further protect you!" Nieve roared, rushing across the battlefield and unleashing torrential waves of freezing water, both freezing and destroying her foes in masse. This time it wasn't a handful, or dozens, she killed almost a hundred offshoots in a few seconds. "[Ocean Dragon's Wave]!"

And she wasn't even done yet, as she conjured the power of the Lesser Water Dragon Spirits within her and amassed them into a mass of frost and water, a giant dragon roared, engulfing everything in front of us and opening a way for Elbedo's party.

SPLAAASH!

Elbedo's team was growing closer to the area where the Sunbeam Relic was located, but an endless swarm of offshoots surrounded it, resembling an ever-growing barrier. Nieve's attack managed to kill most of the ones in their way, but more kept surrounding the Boss!

Loki, Mimy, and Terra were struggling to keep the boss at bay, the monstrous offshoots endlessly attacked them. Was it trying to defend itself from my giant-sized Familiars now that it was getting bullied by them?

"Mark!" I said. "Can you go help them? I'll be fine on my own, don't worry!"

"...Alright!"

He didn't even doubt me, trusting me and swiftly leaping into the skies. His body suddenly growing larger and larger and larger, resembling a wooden titan covered on a sharp armor of black wood, flying with enormous, feathered phoenix wings. His legs quickly transformed into enormous and sharp bird talons, rushing down and slashing through the boss' barrier.

"[Blazing Spirit Totem Magic]: [Holy Blazing Phoenix's Talons]!"

CRAAASH!

The impact alone slashed through the boss' barrier and burned it. And he kept attacking it without end, giant totem pillars appearing around the Boss and unleashing a domain of endless burning holy spirit flames, which constantly damaged and weakened the Boss.

"SHAAAAH!"

The Demon King Fragment Amalgamation quickly materialized a dozen of gigantic claws, slashing through the wooden totems and breaking them furiously, targeting Mark, as it was forced to step back!

"Now!"

Elbedo tore through the monsters on his Divine Dragon form, while Angelina's party covered his back. Angelina flew rapidly, like lightning, cutting and piercing through all foes. Anikitty and Erdrich summoned their respective domains and summons, and Gandalf unleashed storms of elemental magic of various types.

"I'm finally here!"

Elbedo landed right next to the pile of rubble, hundreds of offshoots greeting him as they ran towards him to attack him. However, like a golden blur of light, Angelina quickly disposed of them all using her divine spear techniques, explosions of holy light being the only thing left behind. Gandalf froze and burned them, and Anikitty and Erdrich's summons quickly distracted them.

The Divine Dragon used his claws to tear through all the rubble, finally finding a golden-colored relic in the shape of a sun, with ten pointy ends surrounding it, and a sharp eye in the middle where a yellow and red jewel rested.

"This is it! I found it!"

However, before he could get out of there, three Offshoot Fusions of over fifty meters each rushed towards him, surrounding him while Angelina's party was too busy to lend a hand immediately.

Chapter 937 Breaking Through!

Elbedo was surrounded by three Fused Aberrations at once. Each one being Level 270, no less. I don't know how strong he truly is, but I am sure that these NPC are nerfed for the dungeon's challenge to be high enough.

"SHAAAH!"

The trio of giant, bulky monsters rushed towards him. The rest of the parties were busy fighting the endless swarm. Angelina's party was killing hundreds of the smaller ones as they made their way to Elbedo. The Divine Golden Dragon was surrounded.

"Don't think I'll go down easily!"

He grasped the Sunbeam Relic and imbued it with his Divine Draconic Power. The relic absorbed a large part of his energies, as a powerful beam of divine sunlight was released from his hands, blasting one of the fusions into ashes, while his Holy Light Magic and his Dragon Breath pushed the other two away.

FLASH!

After that, the Divine Dragon quickly leaped into the skies, flying directly towards Angelina's group and firing more beams of divine sunlight, his divine power was depleting rapidly. But to save Angelina's group he was going out of his way to spend most of it.

"Are you alright?! Stay with me! Let's first regroup with Mercedes' group." Said Elbedo. "She's the closest to us!"

"T-Thank you! Hahh..." Angelina sighed in relief. "Alright! Everyone, let's go!"

They quickly leaped over the giant dragon's back, as Elbedo flew over the battlefield and landed in front of Mercedes' party, throwing the relic at her. Brisingra's mother quickly caught the precious divine relic, as the combined group continued killing monsters and advancing rapidly.

"Well done, Elbedo! Now I just need to harness my Spells into this thing- But even if we can blast it with a beam, that won't do, right? Look at the barrier surrounding it!" Mercedes said.

"It looks very tough, and it constantly regenerates!" Said Brisingra, adding some valuable insight. Her Rainbow Spirit Divine Barrier kept changing shape. Swords, fists, spears, spikes, tridents, and shields appeared one after another, both crushing foes and defending Mercedes and herself.

"We'll have to just break through then!"

Rita led their party in the frontlines, her Divine Draconification Skill was really powerful. She seemed to be able to endlessly drain Malice from her surroundings, and had over a dozen Malice Orbs surrounding her, constantly getting refilled.

At the same time, she conjured all matter of devastating Darkness and Void Spells. Not only the dragon spells, but also Void Holes that absorbed damage taken for her easily. And all while her Dark Spirits protected her, healed her, and even boosted her stats randomly.

"Lily, use that fat ass of yours and open the way as much as you can! Break that barrier with Mark!" Rita commanded.

"Hey Rita, do you have to call my ass fat?!" Lily cried.

Her powerful Divine Skill activated again; the earth trembled. Dozens of titans made of stone, metal, and ores surged from the ground. Each one being at least a hundred meters tall. They were all an extension of Lily's own body. Her attacks pummeled down through the horde of monsters, hundreds died, and her fists reached the regenerating, spiraling barrier made of the Demon King Fragment Amalgamation's offshoots with ease.

BAAAM!

A powerful barrage of fists started tearing through. At the same time as Rita was beginning to conjure something big. Mark was also fighting, using his titanic sword and his powerful sword techniques to burn and cut through the barrier. Slowly, the boss' protection was beginning to weaken and show many holes through it. Angelina rushed forwards right after that, cutting through the miasmic walls with her holy light spear and her powerful holy angelic magic.

Explosions of light covered the sky. The monster was still healthy, but its barrier was now at its weakest point. I ordered my Divine Beast Familiars to attack at once, explosions of all sorts of elements blasted through the monsters exposed body, its health slowly beginning to deplete once more. This time, we were going all-out!

I noticed Ambil, Jenny, and Acorn staying behind alongside Brisingra and Mercedes, Elbedo, Gandalf, Anikitty, and Erdrich. The latter's combined armies of Undead and Shikigami Spirits holding back the army quite well, while Jenny constantly expanded her entire body and became larger and larger, spreading tentacles to catch and devour anything. Ambil was our weakest, but still could hold his own ground and take care of himself.

"Dammit these things never stop coming! Why the hell did I come to this damned dungeon?!"

He combined his blacksmithing techniques with his hammer techniques. His hammer swiftly becoming gigantic and a hundred times heavier, easily crushing and burning any offshoot that dared get close to him. He complained a lot, but he was decently strong with all the equipment he prepared beforehand for himself. With this we'll be able to power level him a lot.

"Don't worry about this, Sir Ambil! I will protect everyone!"

Acorn was without a doubt their greatest shield after Elbedo depleted most of his Divine Power reserves, using his gigantic body and his myriad of potions to transform into many shapes and forms, readjusting his stats and fighting styles to easily adapt to anything.

"Is that giant squirrel related with Ratatoskr, the Messenger of the Gods and Yggdrasil's Little Guardian, in some way?" Elbedo wondered, glancing at Acorn with great admiration.

"Kind of!" Brisingra said. "You could say he's his descendant!"

"Ratatoskr has a kid?!" Mercedes gasped.

It seemed that in these times, even Ratatoskr, the ancestor of all Squirrel-kin, was still alive.

However, right now, this wasn't really important.

"GRUOOHHHH!"

The Boss gave out a furious howl, the entire landscape trembled. The offshoot reduced in their production speed as its health was finally reaching 70%! However, this only meant it entered a new phase. It did continue producing offshoots though, this time, they were much larger, as if they came fused from the get-go.

An army of roughly fifty Level 280 Fused Aberrations circled the Boss Monster, pushing away all the attackers that were standing on the ground, stopping them from chipping away at the Boss health bar.

"Looks like it's growing desperate, it's now or never! Mercedes, is the relic done yet?"

"Almost!"

"Then I'll clear the way!"

I quickly decided to enter the battle more personally this time.

"[Draconification]!"

FLASH!

Chapter 938 Now Or Never!

My smaller body quickly grew up to twenty meters, as I decided to reach the limits of the half-human Draconification form through the Skill of the very name. My body gained draconic appearance to an extent, while keeping most of my human features. Golden dragon scales grew across my body, a pair of huge wings decorated my back, a long draconic tail grew as well as sharp claws, talons, and even larger horns. The horns I inherited from Belle simply fused with the transformation, becoming a majestic crown of gold on top of my head.

Ding!

[You have undergone [Draconification]! The power of the Yggdragon surges through your entire body! All Stats, Skill Power, and Spirit Magic Power increase by +175%. The power of your [Divine Yggdragon Flames of Life and Nature] will grow in power by +300%.]

[Because you've channeled a large quantity of Ki within your still developing Body through Draconification, your transformation has been further perfected!]

[You gained an additional bonus to All Stats of +50%! Your Ki is recovering rapidly thanks to your special accessory, your power is constantly rising even more!]

"[Yggdragon's Nature Spirit Gardener]!"

My Yggdragon Aura surged from my body, like an eruption of golden and green energies. My Domain and Terrain expanded even further, as I activated several other skills, my body and stats skyrocketing as my Domains started merging with my body, plants, stone, and spirits. The garden surrounding me became my own body too!

I reached the boss monster in that second, both Gram and Gaia's All-Purpose-Tool having been imbued with many Holy Light Spirits and Lesser Light Dragon Spirits, overflowing with golden divine auras. I swung both weapons against the Boss at the same time. The ridiculous stacking of stat buffs and the endless mana I gained through this method easily made my blows explosively strong, even against a tough Level 300 Boss monster.

"[Rudra's Blazing Winds] + [Holy Ascent] = [Ascending Holy Flare Cross]!"

I combined the Heroic Swordsmanship Techniques with the ability of my Gaia's All-Purpose-Tool, as I shapeshifted it into a Divine Holy Sword form. Dual wielding two holy swords, a cross-shaped attack of blazing holy flames exploded into the boss monster's aberrant face, followed by a dozen more similar blows.

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!

Each explosion blew up a piece of the Boss Monster. As everyone else kept attacking it from all sides, chipping away at its health bar while stopping it from regenerating any further. As my attacks descended upon the monster. I saw as it rapidly decided to attack back, a dozen of its tentacles piercing through my entire wooden body with ease, even ignoring all the defense boosts I had!

CRAAASH!

"Planta!"

Mark panicked, only for me to wink back at him. My body swiftly regenerated back to normal. The miasma, nether, and demonic energy trying to wither me away quickly purified by my Halo's Celestial Energy.

"I'm alright, honey. Don't you worry about a single thing and keep attacking it!" After saying that, I quickly attacked back, unleashing a storm of powerful spells using my evolved magic skills. "[Verdant Green Domain Connection: Gaia's Emerald Sword]! [Spirit Combination: Spiritual Elemental Triad]! [Yggdrasil Magic: Divine Root Spears]!"

The power of the Verdant Green Domain was channeled, unleashing its Divine Spirit Power and materializing into gigantic, thirty-meter-big swords of emerald-colored, crystalized Divine Verdant Spirit Essence. The Spirits combined together to unleash explosions of three elements at once. And lastly, gigantic spears made of the strongest wood of Yggdrasil pierced the monster from below.

The swords slashed and stabbed its body, covering the monster with explosions of green light. At the same time as I attacked with magic, I also unleashed attacks with my two heroic legendary swords, slicing through and grinding the monster. This, coupled with everyone's efforts, including my familiars and friends, made it possible for us to drop the monster to 60% of its health.

"Mercedes! Are you ready yet?!"

"Almost... there!"

Mercedes was channeling her Time Magic into the Sunbeam Relic. Apparently building a series of runic engravements to unleash a powerful, all-encompassing attack that could end the monster, or most of it in a single attack. Because of how draining it was after we saw how Elbedo was exhausted after using it like three times, she knew she had to concentrate all her power for a single, powerful attack, gambling it all into it!

"GRYSHAAAH!"

As I was attacking the monster, defending and blocking its blows. My Gaia's weapon quickly shapeshifted into a gigantic Nemean Lion Club again, as I used all my Ki to strengthen my physical prowess, smashing the monster's many heads and tentacles as they kept popping up endlessly.

"Just stay STILL!"

"ROOAAAR!"

The mighty aura of the Nemean Lion surged from my weapon, attacking the beast with gigantic claw and biting attacks. Its endless miasmic flesh was cut enough to shreds that something within its interior was revealed. A huge, five-meter-

big black and gray orb, was this a crystallization of the fragment souls? A core!

"It's ready!" Mercedes gasped for air, as Brisingra quickly created a cannon-shaped barrier where Mercedes placed the relic. "I'm aiming! Where do I aim?!"

"To the core! Everyone, distract it as much as you can, I'll reveal the core for Mercedes to shot!" I roared.

Everyone agreed immediately, as I saw my daughter's party, rushing inside. Hermes had joined with Mercedes, Elbedo, and Cecilia in the backline, giving them some time to finally enter the battle. My daughter appeared right above me as all my friends and familiars constantly distracted the monster's endless limbs.

"Need a hand, mom?"

Her mighty Divine Phantom Katana Arts were unleashed, a flurry of thousands of cutting attacks completely pulverized a good chunk of the boss monster's entire body, explosions of darkness and phantasmal energy spreading everywhere.

The core was finally revealed, I quickly grew a dozen new arms, grabbing the miasmic flesh trying to regenerate over the core, and quickly dragged it all down, revealing the glowing, spherical core.

"Mercedes! NOW!"

At my command, Mercedes and Brisingra's cannon fired, a mighty beam of pure golden and white divine sunlight, illuminating everything so brightly that everything turned completely white for a couple of seconds.

The core was pierced by the blinding light, as the souls of the fused demon king fragments were completely vaporized, and the rest of its body turned into ashes.

BOOOM!

Chapter 939 First Scenario Complete

The usage of the Sunbeam Relic was the hidden scenario condition, and also what made it possible for us to defeat a Level 300 Boss much quicker than expected. I had guessed it would get new forms and stat boosts every time its stats lowered more. But thanks to the Relic and helping the NPC, we were able to blast the rest of the monster's health points in a single attack.

It completely disappeared into ashes, not even a single particle of it left behind. The quartet of researches sighed in relief, dropping over the grasslands my ability had created. Everyone else was also exhausted, even I sighed in relief.

"W-We did it..." Mark sighed in relief, his body slowly collapsing into pieces as his smaller body emerged from a pile of burning wood. "Ugh."

"I hope we get a break after all of this." Rita laughed, as she patted my shoulders.

"I sure hope so as well." I nodded.

"Woah, something's going on...!" My daughter noticed.

Ding!

[Congratulations! You have completed the First Scenario: [Defeat the [Aberrant Demon King Fragments Amalgamation: Lv300+] while protecting the four researchers from death!]

[Excellently done! Not only did you defeat all monsters, but you were able to find the right item and manage to kill the Boss Monster while its health points were still above fifty percent.]

[Because you've defeated an enormous quantity of offshoots from the boss, your entire team has gained a large quantity of Score.]

[Scenario Requirements]: [Protect the four Researchers, kill the Boss: Complete]

[Scenario Hidden Requirement]: [Defeat the Boss using the Sunbeam Relic: Complete]

[Scenario Additional Score]: [+500.000]

[You have qualified to get the highest rewards of this Scenario. However, the rewards will be accumulated and administrated once all Scenarios are completed.]

Everyone noticed. The entire world around us shifted perspective as we noticed the system windows appear, showing once more the four researches, standing in front of their destroyed house. Mercedes was holding the relic in her hands, while our group was nowhere to be seen.

"W-We somehow did it..." Sighed Mercedes.

"The monster was killed, completely?!" Hermes gasped. "So it's possible, we can kill them!"

"It was made of four demon king fragments, yet it died even then! It has been completely and fully vaporized into smithereens. What an incredible relic that is!" Cecilia said happily.

"Well, if it was up to the relic alone we would have never been able to get this far." Elbedo said. "It was thanks to everyone efforts. Though, especially of Mercedes and the helpers."

"Yeah, right..." Mercedes nodded. "Well, we have to quickly report this to our superiors. This relic might be the first ever weapon we can effectively use against the Demon Kings and his forces."

"Let's go... Also let's eat something, I am starving!" Hermes complained.

"Hahaha, likewise, friend." Nodded Elbedo.

[Thanks to the assistance of helpers that were passing by in the city, the researches were able to defeat the Demon Kings Fragment Amalgamation, and even managed to defeat it using one of their relics, the Sunbeam Relic!]

[This proved the first official victory against the Demon Kings, one that proved it was possible to kill them once and for all if the right ingredients and power were gathered in a single attack.]

[However, even after their victory, one of their members couldn't help but remember what had provoked this entire scenario from happening.]

"But even after all this, why did the seals break so easily? I thought they were made by the Gods, right?" The Ancient Elf wondered. "The only ones who can temper with those seals are... Um, only ourselves of the three races."

"That's..." Mercedes muttered. "Are you implying someone tempered with the seals?"

"But why would they do that?" Hermes wondered.

"Hmm, we shouldn't discuss this now, it could cause distrust between us. There's nothing saying it happened that way, or if it was one of us." Elbedo quickly tried to calm down the tension. "Let's go report this to our superiors first, above all else."

"A-Alright, sorry." Cecilia apologized.

[With slight distrust brewing between old comrades, the group of four walked back to the city where they reported what happened to their superiors, direct "Avatars" of the Gods who could freely communicate and share their five senses with them.]

"So it was possible for you to kill not one, but four Demon King Fragments with this?" A silver-scaled Divine Dragon asked. He looked a lot like Silver. "Incredible! We did hear some about it, but we were waiting for the confirmation from you."

"This is unprecedented. We must immediately communicate with the Gods about it." Nodded a blonde Ancient Elf.

"Well done, you've worked hard. You deserve some rest after all this time." A blue-skinned Majin said, with sharp red eyes and long, silver-colored eye. He had a pair of long spiraling horns.

Divine Dragons, Ancient Elves, and Majin were the "three ancient races" created by the Yggdragon before any other race was made or born in the world of Arcadia, or so I've heard.

[After reporting what they found and showing them the Sunbeam Relic to their superiors. The trio quickly contacted the Gods, immediately telling them the news about this artifact's powers. Once that was done with, the Gods decided to create similar artifacts with the help of the Ancient Races.]

[However, this was no longer something they could get involved with so easily.]

"I-Is there anything else we can do?" Wondered Mercedes.

"You've done enough, you may leave. Rest for now. We shall do the rest ourselves." Said the Silver Divine Dragon.

"That's right." Nodded the blonde-haired ancient elf woman.

"Thank you for your help." The Majin smiled gently.

"A-Ah, well... Actually." Cecilia was going to try to address something. "About the Demon King Fragments, apparently, their seal was very weak. When Hermes was trying to kill one using the relic, the seal was destroyed, and they freed themselves. I-It was what caused this entire incident."

"The seal... weakened? That's impossible." The ancient elf woman said. "Are you sure it wasn't something the relic did, perhaps?"

"I am fairly sure it wasn't the relic, ma'am." Said Hermes. "Someone might have tampered with it."

"Someone? Do you suggest that one of us did it? A traitor?!" The Majin asked angrily.

Tension quickly brewed.

Chapter 940 Break Time

"Enough, there's no need to become so agitated about it." The Ancient Elf woman sighed. "However, this is also not something we can ignore. If there's even the possibility for one of us to betray the Order and work in conjunction with the Demon Kings, then we must find them and quickly capture them."

"But why would anybody want to do such a thing?" Wondered the silver-scaled dragon. "We are all children of the Yggdragon, we live to serve the Gods, her parents. And there is no reason to ever betray them, who have given us everything."

"Only someone insane would ever think such a thing, but can we even become insane? We are near perfect beings, closer to the gods than any other." The Majin sighed.

"But we are not perfect." Said Mercedes. "And... Well, perhaps there's something else out there?"

"Something else? What are you talking about?" Asked the silver-scaled dragon.

"Like, there must be a reason why this is happening, right? Whoever tried to betray us must've wanted to accomplish something else, something bigger, maybe? To go to such an extent just for murderous intent is weird." Said Hermes, crossing his arms. "Right?"

"Yeah, he's not wrong. There must be also something they learned." Cecilia nodded. "For a while now, there are many secrets in the surface of our world which we've never been able to access. Perhaps this person did so, and the revelation... It might have changed them."

"Of course that's all speculation of you three, it doesn't mean its true!" The Majin protested.

"With all due respect, Lord, but why are you so against the idea? If the proof is right there, then there was indeed someone that somehow weakened the seals." Elbedo spoke. "If we let such a person go loose, then the damage we could even up getting over time would become tremendous, and our entire operation, our purpose, would be endangered by this person's acts."

"So you suggest we must find them at all costs, huh?" The Majin sighed. "Alright, if you are so eager, why don't we assign this mission to you four? Might as well."

"What? To us? Only us four?" Mercedes cried. "B-But...!"

"Hm, not a bad idea. You're the ones related to this incident, so you should be familiar with the scene and find clues more easily." The blonde ancient elf woman agreed with the Majin.

"I suppose you're right." The silver-scaled dragon agreed almost instantly. "Mercedes Group, from now on you're assigned with the task of searching for the traitor that tampered with the Demon King Fragment seals and to bring them to us."

"That's... Wait a second, I don't want more work!" Cecilia complained. "At least pay us for that too!"

"You will be paid, yes. An advancement for now." The blonde elf woman nodded, waving her hand, as a glistening coin made of blue crystal materialized in front of them. "Ten thousand Refined Mana Coins for

each should be enough for an advance. Also, we will pay you for the discover in your research later. That'll also be more."

"Oooh! Now you're talking!" Cecilia immediately changed her expression. She reminded me a lot of Rita, now that I think about it.

"You may also call for the help of the group of guards and servants that helped you defeat the monster too, we'll allow that." The Dragon with silver scales said.

"Now, I hope you don't disappoint us nor the gods. We will be rather busy now, so only come back once you find substantial clues." The Majin sighed. "You may leave now."

The four researchers quickly walked out of the large temple, now given a new mission.

"So we really have to do this the hard way..." Hermes sighed. "What a pain."

"Well, you were the one with the idea." Said Elbedo. "Now let's do that... Tomorrow though, I am too tired."

"Likewise, let's go eat something for now." Mercedes smiled. "I wonder how the people that helped us is doing."

"I'm sure they're fine, they went away in a hurry for some reason." Cecilia shrugged. "Let's call them later."

The quartet of researches walked through the beautiful, ancient, and busy-looking streets of the city of Cloudia, as the sun slowly set. The scenario shifted slowly around us, as more messages appeared. We were all in silence, mostly resting while attentively seeing how the story progressed. It felt like we were watching a movie.

[After having given a new mission, the researches have decided to rest for the day, while waking up the next day with enough energy to continue their mission.]

[The possibility of a "traitor" among them, or even within the city by itself was a dangerous thought, but one they couldn't leave as ambiguous anymore.]

[After a hearty breakfast, the group quickly decided to start their job, moving back to the area where their older research facility was located.]

[The Second Scenario will begin in 3 hours. For now, you're allowed to freely walk through the area outside and inside of the house of the four researchers, freely speak and interact with them, and more.]

[Once their research for the culprit begins, the Second Scenario will begin. Make sure to gather a few clues beforehand as you rest.]

[Note: Time inside of this Dungeon goes by ten times slower than the outside world.]

The moment the system windows ended appearing, we were all sent to the city, in fact, right outside of the house of the four researchers. The entire world felt so alive, I couldn't believe it was all just some sort of mirage. No, in fact, this entire Dungeon seems to work with magic very similar to Dream Magic, actually. Could this be considered something like a Dream Dungeon then?

"W-We're here?" My daughter wondered. "Wait, this dungeon's very interactive, huh? So we can talk with people? Or we can even explore the area too!"

"There's even some sort of time dilation..." Angelina said. "I never thought this technology could do it, there were so many speculations. But it's actually possible?!"

"There are a lot of VRMMO fiction novels I read with time dilation between game and real world, but I can't believe it's real." Gandalf said.

"Well, for now, shall we greet the researchers first?" I knocked the door, as Mercedes greeted us.

"Oh, it's you guys! Welcome, please enter."